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"LIFT US TO LOVE THE BEST"

From the painting "Dedication" by H. O. Walker

THE LOTUS MAGAZINE

Volume X January, 1919 Number 1

HYMN OF FAITH

By E. A. Burroughs

Nothing could be in more direct contradistinction to Germany's Hymn of Hate than the following, written in 1914 by one of the fifteen hundred men of the British Royal Naval Division interned at Gröningen and Leeuwarden, in the north of Holland. It was sung in Camp on the third anniversary of the internment, and first appeared in "The Spectator."

There is in the stanzas a noticeable falling away of complexities, and a spontaneous turning of consciousness toward that to which it is most intimately related, that is often the reaction in times of great tragedy. The fine spirit of the lines has a broader application than that primarily intended for them, and the faith in Divine guidance for the future so simply expressed, should be the natural outbreathing of hearts all over the world in this new year of peace.—Editor.

LORD God, Whose ways of wonder
  Are past man's finding out,
Whose voice is in the thunder,
  Who teachest faith through doubt:
Above man's warring passions
  We hail Thy flag unfurled,
And know Thy right hand fashions
  A purpose for Thy world.

Thou, in our day of dangers
  Who didst provide a way,
And in the land of strangers
  Hast made us still to stay,
Forgive us if, unheeding
  The hand that helped us then,
Our hearts have left Thy leading,
  And turn them back again.

Turn us again, and save us
  From self with all its snares,
From lusts that soon enslave us,
  From sordid quests and cares:
From swamps of sick depression,
  From deserts of unrest,
From every vain obsession,
  Lift us to love the Best.

Lift us, that, when hereafter
  Thou sendest us release,
And mouths are filled with laughter,
  And hearts are glad with peace,
We then may follow, willing,
  The path our brothers trod,
And fight for the fulfilling
  Of all the Hopes of God.